



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

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Advisory (Please Post)

TO: All MA Ambulance Services

FROM: Jon Burstein, State EMS Medical Director
Louise Goyette, Director

DATE: October 10, 2003

RE: Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) Lines

As of November 1, 2003, EMT-Paramedics on ambulances operating at the EMT-P level, if trained and authorized by their affiliate hospital medical director, will be allowed, subject to on-line medical control authorization, to access Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) lines **already established** in a patient, as an alternative means of intravenous (IV) access.

Your affiliate hospital medical director must have authorized your EMT-Paramedics to use PICC lines in this manner. Training, competency and oversight are the responsibility of your service and its affiliate hospital medical director.

If you have any questions, contact OEMS Clinical Coordinator Tom Quail, RN, at (617) 284-8330.